

# KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
August 5, 2010

No. 10-042  
**MEDIA CONTACT:** Lisa Y. Gross  
**Office** - (502) 564-2015  
**Cellular** - (502) 330-5063  
lisa.gross@education.ky.gov

## **BOARD SELECTS OFFICERS, APPROVES EMO**

(FRANKFORT, Ky.) – At its retreat on Wednesday and regular meeting on Thursday, the Kentucky Board of Education heard presentations and took action on a number of items.

On Wednesday, Kentucky Supreme Court Justice Daniel Venters presided over the swearing-in ceremony of the board's newest members, who were appointed by Gov. Steve Beshear in July. The five are:

- Jonathan Parrent, representing the First Supreme Court District
- William L. Twyman, representing the Second Supreme Court District
- Roger L. Marcum, representing the Third Supreme Court District
- Mary Gwen Wheeler, representing the Fourth Supreme Court District
- Martha M. Jones, representing the Seventh Supreme Court District

Venters also swore in Judith Gibbons, who was reappointed to the board representing the Sixth Supreme Court District. C.B. Akins, who was reappointed representing the Fifth Supreme Court District, was unable to attend the board's retreat and meeting.

On Thursday, the board approved the recommended slate of officers for 2010-11. David Karem will serve as chair of the board, with Dorie Combs and C.B. Akins serving as vice-chairs.

The board also approved Alvarez & Marsal Public Sector Services, based in Atlanta, Georgia, as an Educational Management Organization (EMO). House Bill 176 (KRS 160.346), passed in the 2010 regular session of the General Assembly, provides that the day-to-day management of low-performing schools may be transferred to an EMO that has received approval from the Kentucky Board of Education.

The board took the following actions:

- approved district facility plans for Cumberland, Hickman and Shelby counties
- approved district facility plan amendments for Lee and Montgomery counties
- approved the Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS) unmet need for school districts
- approved the KETS expenditure plan
- approved the appointments of Cynthia R. Houston, a professor at Western Kentucky University, and Cherissa L. Eden, a parent in Shelby County, to the state Textbook Commission
- approved the appointment of Cletus Turner, a teacher at Warfield Middle in Martin County, to the Kentucky Writing Program Advisory Committee

(more)

**Visit our Web site at <http://www.education.ky.gov>.**

The board heard presentations on the following items:

- the 2011 legislative agenda
- assistance to low-achieving schools
- repeal of 703 KAR 5:170, the state regulation governing the Highly Skilled Educator program
- gifted and talented education
- the capital construction process

The Kentucky Board of Education's next regular meeting is scheduled for October 6 in Frankfort.

##